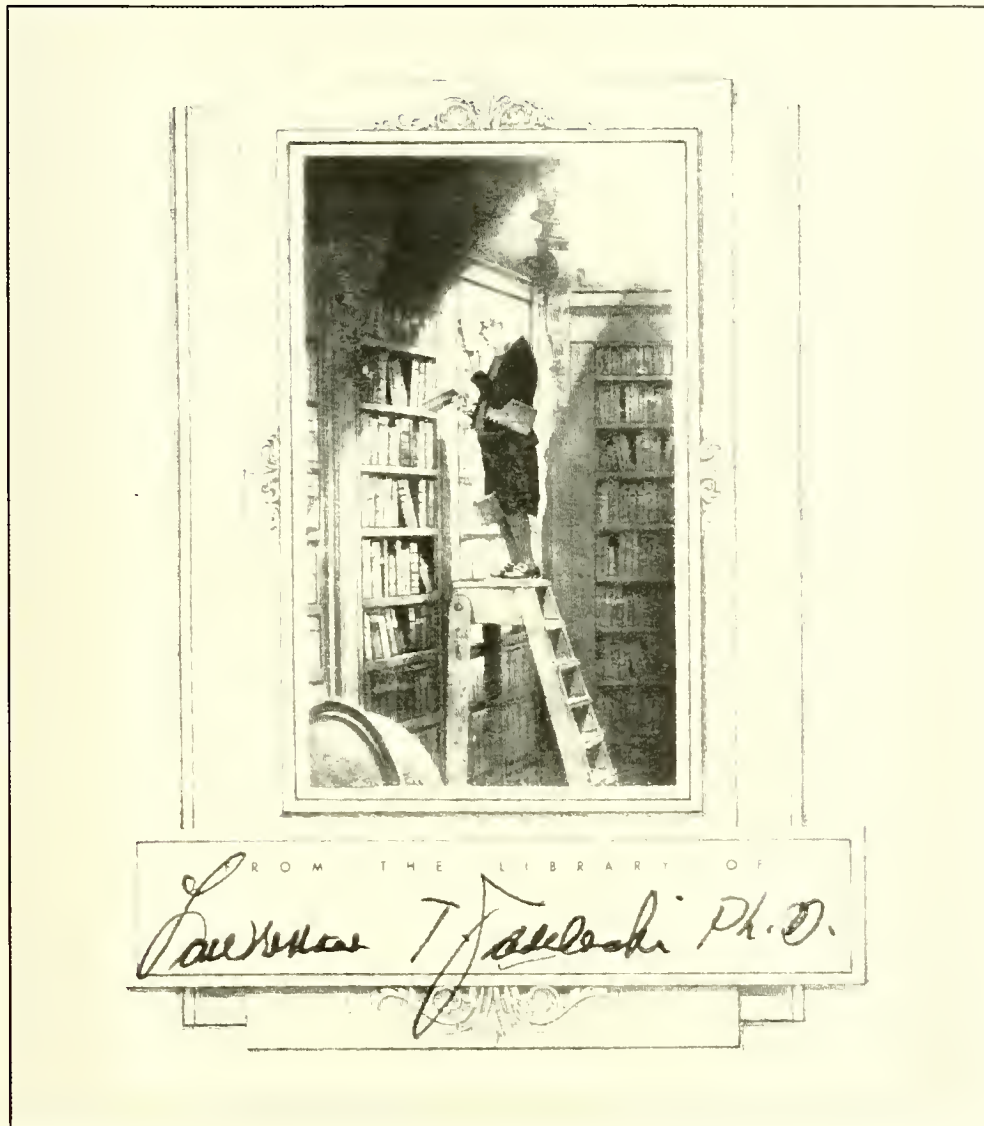


The Flyleaf

Friends of Fondren Library Vol. 48, No. 1

Fall 1997



Small Treasures of the Fondren Library

A LETTER TO THE FRIENDS

Dear Friends of Fondren Library,

It is December and in Houston the days are only occasionally the dark and dreary days of an approaching winter that the poets and novelists describe. Perhaps because of their rarity I welcome such days, for they seem to permit a kind of closeting or turning in from the world to introspection and that most happy of indoor pursuits, reading. Another happy indoor pursuit akin to the above is browsing in bookstores, or walking the stacks of the library. May I remind you that as a Friend of Fondren Library, you have that privilege? And also, of course, the privilege of checking out books and taking them home to read on a rainy, perhaps even cold, December or January day?

This fall the Friends of Fondren have had the pleasure of hearing an excellent lecture by David Remnick, a historian of modern Russia. Though a Pulitzer Prize winner, for *Lenin's Tomb*, Mr. Remnick is still not widely known beyond academic circles, and we feel particularly proud to have hosted him at his first public lecture in Houston. We thank Kathryn Smyser for chairing the lecture.

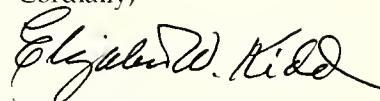
Another annual event was the Homecoming Brunch at which we honored, as the 1997 "outstanding Friends," Ferne and Harold Hyman. They are, indeed, treasured friends of our library.

Many pleasurable events lie ahead. On January 25 we will again sponsor the Rice Authors reception, and on February 22 we will co-host the Schubertiad. On April 4 we will honor Susan and Jim Baker at the Eighteenth Annual Saturday Night, chaired by Lew Eatherton with his usual aplomb and sense of fun.

Finally, I would like to invite you to participate in a new initiative of the Friends; that is, to help establish for the library a special fund for acquiring archival materials. The Friends of Fondren Library endowment is now close to two million dollars, but the income of the endowment is used as part of the library's general use budget. This new endowment would be for use of purchasing for the archives only, and would be a reserve for those occasions when a collection becomes available and quick action is required. We need a group to determine the where, when, how, and who of such an effort. If you are interested in being part of such a group, or of making suggestions to it, please call Mary Bixby at the Friends office.

Meanwhile, enjoy the few dark and gloomy, cold and wet days that come our way.

Cordially,



Elizabeth W. Kidd

FONDREN LIBRARY

Founded under the charter of the university dated May 18, 1891, the library was established in 1913. Its present building was dedicated November 4, 1949, and rededicated in 1969 after a substantial addition, both made possible by gifts of Ella F. Fondren, her children, and the Fondren Foundation and Trust as a tribute to Walter William Fondren. The library celebrated its half-millionth volume in 1965 and its one-millionth volume on April 22, 1979.

THE FRIENDS

The Friends of Fondren Library was founded in 1950 as an association of library supporters interested in increasing and making better known the resources of Fondren Library at Rice University. The Friends, through members' contributions and sponsorship of a program of memorials and honor gifts, secure gifts and bequests, and provide funds for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other materials that are needed to support teaching and research at the university.

THE FLYLEAF

Founded October 1950 and published by the Friends of Fondren Library, MS - 44-F, Rice University, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77005-1892, *The Flyleaf* is a record of Fondren Library's and Friends activities, and of the generosity of the library's supporters. *The Flyleaf's* publication schedule corresponds to the academic calendar year.

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Cover bookplate from the collection of Dr. Lawrence T. Jablecki, courtesy of the Woodson Research Center.

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Small Treasures of the Fondren Library

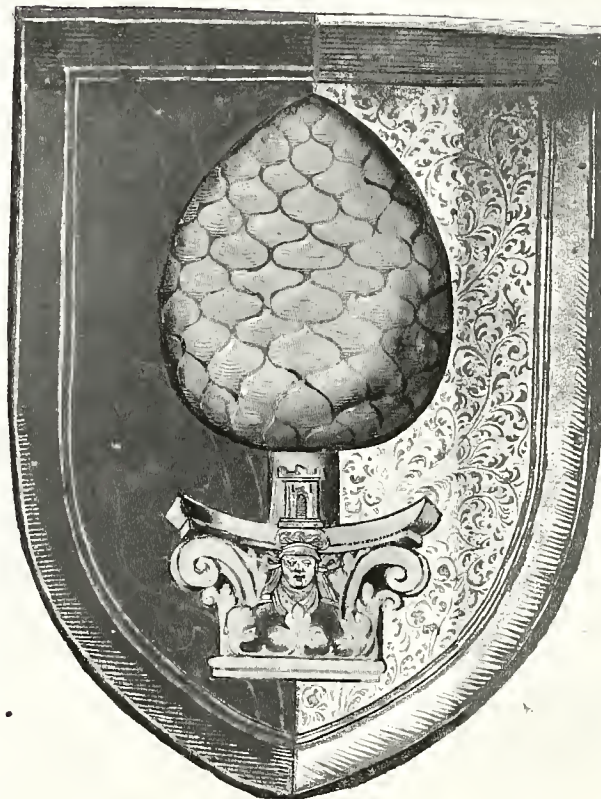
by Shirley Wetzel

A bookplate is to the book what a collar is to the dog ... On the dog's collar one engraves, 'I am Smith's dog.' Alter the word 'dog' to 'book'—add some simple adornment in the shape of a flower, a butterfly, or a crest, and we have what is called a bookplate." — *Ex Libris*, by Arvid Berghman.

"The youngster who scratches his name in the front of his book is no different from the booklover who uses a printed, illustrative and personal bookplate"—introduction to the catalog of the publication *Ex Libris*, New York.

Bookplates as a mark of ownership were originally intended to safeguard against loss of one's books. While they still serve this purpose, bookplates have evolved through time from simple religious or heraldic devices to more elaborate vignettes in a limited number of styles, to modern times where advanced technology allows a wide variety of designs. *Ex libris*, the Latin for 'From the library of ...' has come to be universally understood as an alternative name for a bookplate.

Mankind has always used signs or distinctive marks to establish ownership of personal belongings. Seals and cattle brands have been around since the dawn of history, and continue to be used today. The papyrus scrolls in ancient Egyptian libraries had ceramic identification seals attached to the cylinders in which they were kept. A common practice before the use of bookplates involved stamping or engraving the owner's name on the spine of the book and then shelving the



volumes lying flat. This was called *super libris*. The *ex libris* is a label pasted inside the front cover. The size can range from a small 1 by 2-inch rectangle, bearing only the owner's name, to a large, elaborate plate which covers much of the page.

The use of the bookplate can be traced to 15th century Germany, with the birth of movable type and printed books. Printed books were rare and valuable and bookplates became a unique, picturesque way to identify ownership. These early treasures were not just protected by an ownership mark; they were often chained in place.

Woodson Research Center has one such volume, dated 1575. The elaborate bookplate covers two thirds of the inner front cover; underneath, written in pencil, "The arms of Augsburg." The Woodson staff, puzzled by the heraldic emblem, feels it most closely resembles an artichoke

sitting atop a platform. A drawing of what seems to be a baker with a castle perched atop his voluminous hat is centered on the platform. Research by WRC staffer Steve Johns revealed that the Augsburg coat-of-arms was derived from the arms of the Bishopric of Augsburg, which in part was derived from artifacts excavated from Roman graves. The ambiguous item atop the platform is a pine cone, Roman symbol of the inexhaustible abundance of nature. Nothing was said of the figure wearing the castle. He could be the Bishop of Augsburg; then again, his chapeau looks much

more like a baker's hat than a bishop's miter. Bishop or baker? Hard to tell.

"Chain of association," the tracing of ownership through time is exemplified in *Bibliotheca Sancta*. Above the center bookplate is the *ex libris* of William Harris Arnold. A gentleman, presumably Mr. Arnold, is seated, reading a large folio. Looking over his shoulders hover the shades of famous authors, including Mark Twain and Ernest Hemingway. Above the center bookplate is a small leather shield with stylized violin, the *ex libris* of Jerome Kern.

Concerning the "artichoke" theory, one unnamed Fondren librarian suggested that the owner was Sir Arthur I. Choate, and that he was following a common practice in *ex libris* of having fun with his name. She was kidding, but that kind of thing has been done.

The earliest bookplates were usually printed from woodcuts; then in the 17th and 18th centuries they were printed from copper engravings. Steel engraving came into use at the beginning of the 19th century. In the second half of the 19th century, photomechanical processes offered greater freedom and ease in the reproduction of original sketches. Line work was the basis of the majority of bookplates, whether they were done on copper, steel, or zinc.

The first bookplates were seen in volumes owned by religious institutions and the nobility, and designs were limited to religious themes or heraldic emblems or were identified with church dignitaries (monasteries adopted a new *ex libris* each time a new Lord Abbot arrived). The heraldic plates were at first simple, normally the family coat of arms. At a time when few could read, but all could recognize a coat-of-arms, the name was superfluous. The family shield was surmounted by a helmet, on which were the wreath and crest. As time went by and knowledge of heraldry became less widespread, more attention was paid to the ornamentation and mantling, and less attention was paid to the heraldic components.

As an aside, H. P. Ward in his 1915 publication, *Some American College Bookplates*, states,

"Armorial plates are in questionable taste for most American families. The use of them reminds one of a question put to a certain gentleman who had assumed what appeared to be a veritable coat-of-arms. 'Are those really your arms?' he was asked. 'They ought to be,' was the reply, 'for I made them myself.'"

According to Walter Hamilton, in his *Dated Bookplates*, 1895, many Americans did make claim to heraldic symbols, warranted or not. One James Logan, born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1674, did so, proudly proclaiming that he knew he had no right to the arms, but would use them anyway. He resided in Philadelphia, where he was a successful businessman and politician. He was also a classical scholar and author. When he died, he willed his

...Americans did make claim to heraldic symbols, warranted or not.

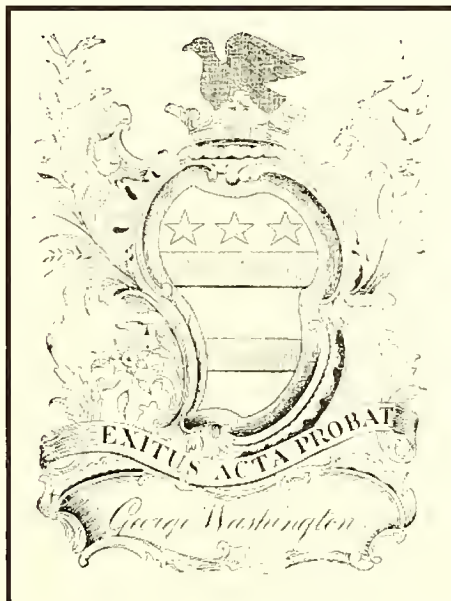
collection of almost 3,000 volumes to the city of Philadelphia.

Other Americans were not so forthcoming, especially in the 18th century. An article in *Ex Libris Journal*, volume II, explores the devious misuse of the symbols of nobility in the article "Bogus Heraldry."

George Washington's family crest, a shield with two stripes and three stars surmounted by a crown and what appears to be a dove, was used by generations of his family and furnished the basis for designing the Stars and Stripes and the national coat of arms.

The Rice Institute/University shield, used on some of the Fondren collection *ex libris*, was derived from the heraldic style of several Rice families, with some modifications. Falcons on the original crests, for example, were replaced by owls on the Rice shield.

Collecting bookplates has become a popular hobby. The topic of bookplates is vast, with many subfields to explore. There are books and periodicals on the subject, societies and exhibitions for collectors, specialized collections, specific categories and artists, even webpages.



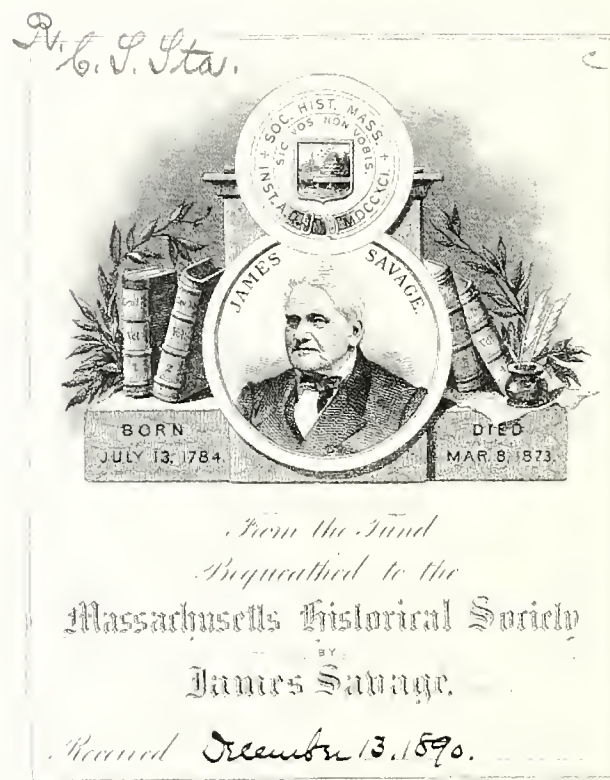
Notre Dame has recently begun scanning in a sampling from their considerable file of plates, and others are sure to follow.

Collectors of *ex libris* do so for a variety of reasons :

- **Personal interest** — Patrons of the bookplate include George Washington, William Penn, William Hogarth, Samuel Pepys, Franklin Roosevelt, Jack London, Charles Dickens, Gloria Swanson, and William Randolph Hearst. In the early 20th century, George Washington's plate was one of the few American examples deemed worth counterfeiting. There are doubtless a few more now. Did Elvis Presley have an *ex libris*, in addition to his own postage stamp?
- **Genealogical interest** — Plates are particularly interesting if in a sequence belonging to old families given to book-collecting for several generations.
- **Heraldic interest** — On older plates heraldry was a "conspicuous element." These plates help provide a comprehensive survey of changes in heraldic design.
- **Historical interest** — Plates add to the fields of the history of engraving and the art of illustration. One can learn to identify the different methods, materials, and styles of bookplates, and perhaps something about the books to which they are affixed.
- **Artistic interest** — Noted artists and public figures such as Albrecht Durer, Holbein, Lucas Cranach the younger, Hogarth, Paul Revere, Sir John Millais, Aubrey Beardsley, Kate Greenaway, Marc Chagall, and Rockwell Kent, among others, have contributed their talent to designing and engraving *ex libris*.

Types of bookplate design were derived from the 1880 work by Hon. J. Leicester Warren, *A Guide to the Study of Book Plates*. The broad categories he created are still used. Some of the most popular are:

Jacobean — heavy decorative style in vogue during the Restoration, the Queen Anne and early Georgian periods 1700–1750. The bookplate was by then recognized as essential. It is armorial in type, with decoration limited to symmetrical grouping of the mantling and occasional display of palms and wreaths. The style was imported from France, but soon assumed English characteristics. Decoration is conventional, remarkable more for solidity than gracefulness. Strictly symmetrical, massive, heavy, with carved appearance.



Chippendale — flamboyant rococo style of engraving during the middle third of the 18th century. Many furniture maker's patterns were reflected in the bookplates of the period. The distinguishing feature is a fanciful arrangement of scroll and shellwork with acanthus-like sprays. The design is usually not symmetrical, to give freer scope for a great variety of counter-curves. It is limited in variety of design and was in vogue for only twelve years. Characteristic is the frilled border of open scallop shellwork set close to, and almost enclosing, the escutcheon. George Washington's plate is a good example.

By the latter third of the 18th century there were new styles, greater variety, and more originality. The "simple and chaste" design called ribbon and wreath was a common element. There were motifs of pastoral scenes, landscape effects, pictorial compositions, and library interiors, which were engraved onto copper plates. Designs produced from steel engravings in the 19th century continued the formality of the 18th. In the second half of the 19th century photomechanical processes offered greater freedom and ease in the reproduction of original sketches.

Portrait style plates are uncommon. Some were used in the early church works, but the more

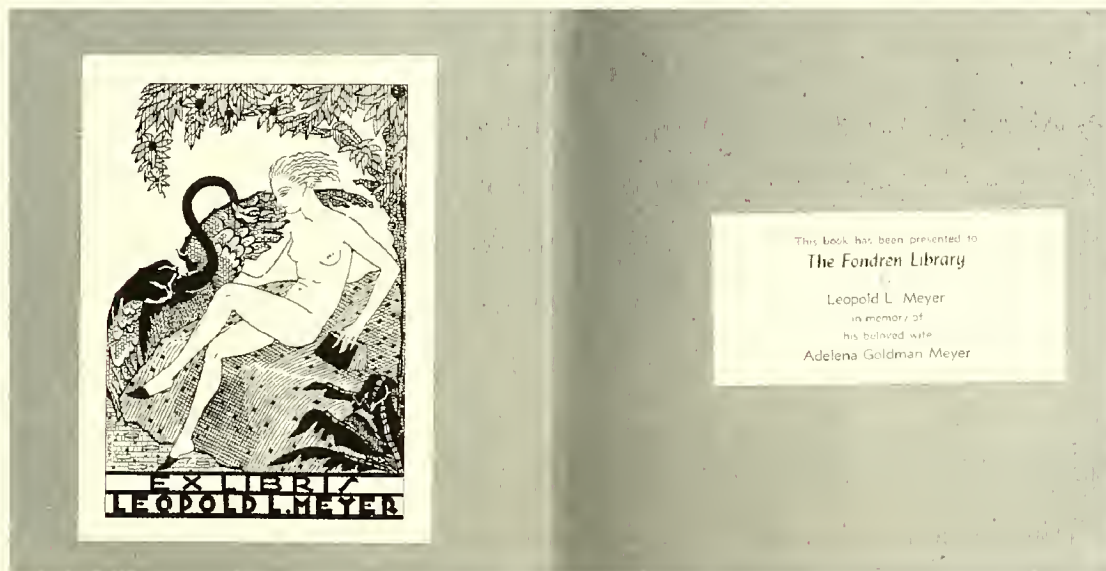
modern ones usually date to the second half of the 19th century or the early 20th century. An example is found in a collection of books about the South in the Civil War which were purchased by the Massachusetts Historical Society from a fund bequeathed to them by John Savage. The bookplate is centered by a handsome depiction of Mr. Savage, under which are engraved his dates of birth and death: b. July 1784 d. Mar. 1873. Above his head is the seal of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

The design of bookplates almost always reflects the art of the culture of which it is a part. The Art Deco style of the 1920's can be seen in the delightful ex libris of Leopold L. Meyer. Mr. Meyer gave, among many other works, a 22-volume set of *The*

busy plate shows a tree, a crescent moon, a jug of wine, a loaf of bread, and a crane encircled by frills and furbelows and a shield which is a paint pallet with paint brushed rampant. The famous verse from Omar Khayyam — "A Book of Verses underneath the Bough, A Jug of Wine..." appears at the bottom. Fairies and nymphs and brave knights, Greek gods and goddesses, Egyptian motifs were all popular elements during the Art Deco period.

Bookplates from the beginning have reflected something about the life of the book owner, but in the 20th century there has been a tendency to overload a plate with details. H. Ward comments that "One sometimes sees a plate that has so much of the life-history of the owner within its small

compass that at a glance it is evident to all that he glories in gold, has a regard for roses, rides a wheel, esteems Omar Khayyam very highly, reads Scott & Lowell, can quote Shakespeare, has been to Switzerland, collects butterflies, and lives in New Jersey." Some



Writings of Rafael Sabatini, in memory of his wife, Adelena Goldman Meyer. The bookplate depicts an updated version of Leda and the Swan. A charming Leda appears with wavy, cropped hair, clad only in black high-heeled slippers. She holds a book in her left hand, and her right arm embraces a fanciful black swan. Many of the college and university bookplates found in Ward's *Some American College Bookplates* utilized similar allegories. An early plate from the University of California shows a man and woman dipping water from the fount of knowledge; the water streams from a cleft in a boulder on which is engraved "University of California." An *ex libris* from the Brander Matthews Museum of Columbia University has a crouching Native American gazing at a stone mask representing the Greek Comedy. Walter Crane's

are frivolous, even downright silly, as with the portly bibliophile who chose as his personal statement an elephant. Others may reflect the owner's pride in his library, and his willingness (or not) to share his books with friends. A butterfly decorates an early 20th century plate for an entomology museum. Anything is possible, and has probably been attempted.

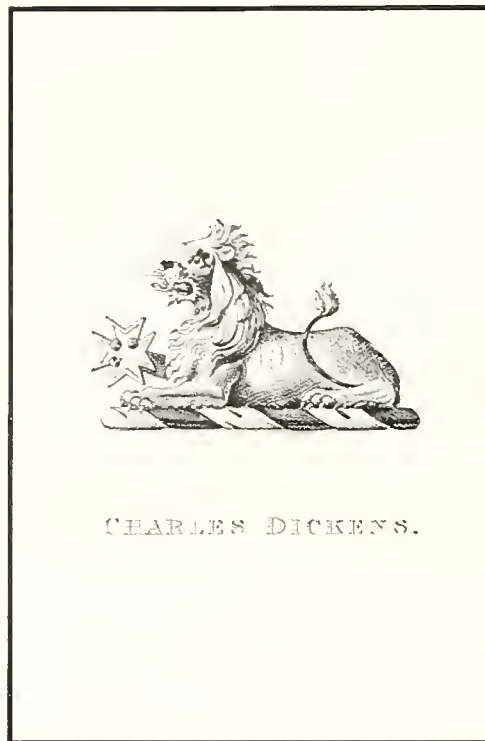
Ward goes on to say that "while a private [book] owner may exercise flights of fancy ... the institutional plate must be more dignified. The motif must be something more in keeping with the history and character of the institutional library which it is to adorn."

The bookplates found in Fondren Library meet his criteria of simplicity and tastefulness. The library has used a number of different bookplates

since its beginnings. Some reflect changes in the basic design; others are used for special collections or represent gifts from specific funds.

Some patrons have donated their personal collections bearing their distinctive *ex libris*. The Masterson Collection has an intriguing plate representing Harris Masterson's interest in Texas history. A gift plate depicts a man engrossed in a book while an owl hovers above. All of the Fondren *ex libris* share a simplicity and elegance of design.

The Woodson Research Center has some volumes which were pre-owned by well-known public figures. An 1854 edition of the Stevens and Catherwood classic, *Incidents of Travel in Central America*, has two bookplates. One has a lion couchant, holding a Maltese cross. Under the lion is the owner's name: Charles Dickens. A smaller plate in the lower corner says simply "From the Library of CHARLES DICKENS Gadshill Place, June, 1870." Julian Huxley, one of the first professors at the Rice Institute, gave his papers and books to Rice and are found in the Huxley Collection of WRC. Apparently Dr. Huxley didn't consider bookplates a necessity; the oldest books in his collection bear only his signature, first in pencil, later in ink. As his collection grew, he began using a stamp of his signature. One book from his personal collection



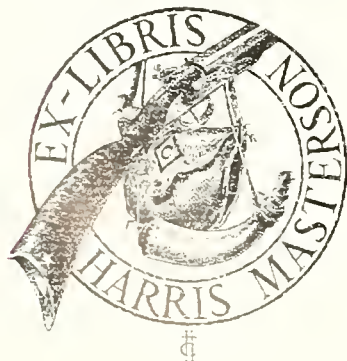
does have a plate, however. It was given as a prize from Eton in 1902, when he was a schoolboy. The book is a basic introduction to British seashells.

One oddity appears on a book published in 1655. The *ex libris*, which does not date back to the original owner, sports a large semi-heraldic shield surrounded by flamboyant swans and plain geese, a phoenix, and other frills. Above it all is a Chinese yin-yang symbol, with the Greek words *Tae Kei*. Below are the words *Taxis Kai Kosmos*. When my Greek-expert colleagues failed to make sense of these phrases, one of them, librarian Melinda Flannery, fired off an e-mail to her friend James A. Francis, a Hellenist at the University of

Kentucky. He, too, had difficulty making a sensible exact translation.

Tae Kei ... a cute way of doing *Ta Ekei*, which literally means 'the things over there', and is used as an euphemism for, roughly, 'the things beyond this world.' *Taxis Kai Kosmos* is another cutesy one. *Taxis* and *kosmos* are, in their garden-variety meanings, synonyms - they both mean 'order' or 'good order.' ...You can either translate with English synonyms or with second meanings of one of the words. Try 'Order & Decorum,' or 'Rank & Order', or 'Duty & Honor.'

Dr. Francis advised that in these cases, "it would be best to go with whatever you think sounds best in English." He offered a blurb to cover the author "elegantly from any objection from purists: The translation of these extremely laconic aphorisms is difficult, especially since the meaning is likely to have been very particular to the individual owner. A broad paraphrase is offered here instead of a literal translation, in the belief that this would be closer to the actual spirit of these mottoes."





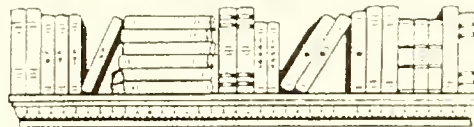
A gift plate from the library of Hardin Craig, Jr., a former university librarian at Fondren Library, is also on this book, *The Church-History of Britain*, printed in London in 1655, adding another link in the chain of association. Other books have evidence of multiple ownership, such as

a book given to the Friends of Fondren by Mrs. W.W. Fondren in January, 1951, which was once owned by Gower Earl Gower. One wonders where the journey will end.

Marlowe's phrase, "Infinite riches in a little room," is a perfect description of the Woodson Research Center. The books and bookplates described here are but a small sample of the treasures to be found there.

Special thanks to Nancy Boothe, Steve Johns, and other staff of the Woodson Research Center for their generous access to the collection. Their advice and expertise were invaluable to me in putting together this article. Thanks also to my co-workers for their valuable advice and strange sense of humor. ≡

Book Sale News



The next Friends of Fondren Library Book Sale will be held in the fall of 1998. The exact dates and location have not been set, so watch *The Flyleaf* for an announcement.

We are looking for volunteers to sort books for the sale. We will be scheduling a sorting session at a regular time each week, and we'll need three volunteers for each session. If you can help, please call the Friends of Fondren office at 713-285-5157.

You can drop off your books at two locations:

Star Motor Cars at 7000 Old Katy Road

- Monday-Saturday between 9:00 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Call 713-868-6800 if you need directions.
- Please pack books in boxes rather than paper bags. If bags must be used, please double bag.

Fondren Library

- Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- Drive to the loading dock on the south side of the building. Speak into the intercom to the left of the doorway and ask for assistance at the loading dock. (It is not necessary to push any of the buttons on the intercom.) If there is no answer, go to the phone inside the loading dock area and dial 3737. Personnel at the library security desk will answer, and you should then ask for assistance at the dock.
- Please pack books in boxes.
- If you have more than 15 boxes, we need advance notice. Please call the Friends of Fondren Office at 713-285-5157.

Our thanks to all of you who have supported the book sale in the past. We look forward to a very successful sale in 1998.

Beverly and Walter Baker, and Pam Smith



Sue Shaper and Lillian Illig



1997 Friends of Homecoming



Friends of Fondren honorees Harold and Ferne Hyman

Ann Root and Jim and Karen Icenhower



Al Jensen, Neel Cotten, and Neal Lacey, Jr.



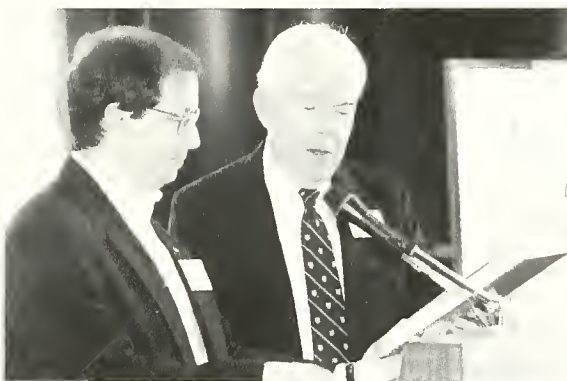
Fondren Annual Brunch



Rice Engineering Alumni honorees Matthew R. Barry and Joseph F. Reilly, Jr.



Harold and Ferne Hyman and Sally K. Reynolds



Jeff Ross and Joe Reilly



Jeff Ross and Matt Barry



Hershel Rich and Ron Conn

Once again the Friends of Fondren Library and the Rice Engineering Alumni hosted the ever popular and immensely well attended Homecoming Brunch held on November 8, 1997. This year we honored Ferne and Harold Hyman, Joseph F. Reilly, Jr., '48, and Matthew R. Barry '84.

Event chair Sally Reynolds presented the Friends of Fondren Library Award to Ferne and Harold Hyman whose longtime association with Rice is well-known to all. The Hymans came to Houston in the summer of 1968; Ferne began her work at Fondren in the Gifts and Exchanges Department and Harold began his career here as the first William Pettus Hobby Professor in American History.

Harold has served Rice as history department chairman, chairman of the University Committee on Public Lectures, and as an associate at Lovett College. He has written numerous books, articles and essays on American history and was elected to the Society of American Historians in 1974. He was among a select group of scholars who quietly laid the groundwork to commemorate the bicentennial birthday of the U.S. Constitution in 1987.

Ferne has served Fondren Library in collection development, reference, and special services. She is currently assistant university librarian and serves on the Fondren Executive Committee. Ferne has been very involved with the American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Houston Area Research Library Consortium. She has also written several articles for *The Flyleaf*.

Together Ferne and Harold have been members of the Friends since shortly after coming to Rice. They have been generous contributors to the Gifts and Memorial Fund and the Fondren Saturday Night galas.

The Rice Engineering Alumni president, Jeff Ross '75, enjoyed a busy Saturday since he also co-chaired Homecoming '97 for the

Association of Rice Alumni. He presented the Outstanding Engineering Alumnus Award to Joseph F. Reilly, Jr., for his service to industry, community and the University. Joe received a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering in 1948. He formed Industrial Handling Engineers in 1953 to improve manufacturing operations in the chemical engineering or chemical process environment. He has served both the REA and the ARA as president. Joe and his wife, Sidney, have four children, two of whom are Rice graduates.

The final presentation was awarded by Mr. Ross to Matthew R. Barry as Outstanding Young Engineering Alumnus. Matt received a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 1984 and a master of science in 1985. While working at Rockwell Space Operations Company he was awarded his Ph.D. in 1992. He is currently with the United Space Alliance focused on real time flight control operations and training for the NASA Space Shuttle and Space Station Program.

The clear, crisp, autumn weather set the stage for this congenial gathering of Friends of Fondren Library and the Rice Engineering Alumni. This brunch has become a great beginning for this special Saturday and a signature event for the Rice Homecoming weekend. ≡



Cindy Kurt, Matt Barry, Joe and Sidney Reilly



Gwynne Old and Norman Reynolds



The Hyman Family

1997 Distinguished Guest Lecture

by Kathryn V. Smyser

On Sunday, October 19, Pulitzer Prize winning author and journalist David Remnick delivered the 1997 Friends of Fondren Library Distinguished Guest Lecture. This year's lecture concluded a memorable week during which the dedication of the Baker Hall focused the Rice community's attention on international affairs. Mr. Remnick, author of two widely-praised books on contemporary Russian politics and society, spoke on "The New Russia: Perils and Possibilities of an Awakening Bear." For the third year, the lecture was generously underwritten by the Brown Foundation.

Ranging across the entire spectrum of Russian society, Mr. Remnick treated the Stude Hall audience to a fascinating portrait of cultural, political and business life in post-Soviet Russia. Organized crime, political corruption, the absence of moral authority and the devastating residual impact of Soviet repression all formed part of Mr. Remnick's story. Despite the currently painful upheaval, Remnick finds the prospect for Russia's departure from its absolutist tradition "more promising than ever before."

Mr. Remnick's optimism is based on at least two factors:

- the diminished isolation of the Russian people, a process likely to be irreversible given modern telecommunications technology and
- the de facto decentralization of political and economic power which, in some areas, has fostered local and regional prosperity despite problems of the larger Russian economy.

Mr. Remnick seems confident in the economic potential inherent in this increasingly urban and highly literate nation with its extraordinary natural resources. In David Remnick's view, short-term

political risks, including concerns about President Boris Yeltsin's health, do not diminish the likelihood that these demographic and economic forces will ultimately secure a prosperous and democratic future for Russia. As Mr. Remnick stated, "An entirely new era has begun. Russia has entered the world, and everything, even freedom, even happiness, is now possible." ≡



Lew Eatherton, Sally and Norman Reynolds, and Walter Baker



Tom Smith, Tom Eubanks, John Boles, and King Walters



David Remnick and Ed Djerejian



Kathryn Smyser, event chair, and Harold Hyman

A Prize of a Dinner

The program for the 1997 Friends of Fondren Gala listed 11 live auction items and as the auction proceeded, each new item seemed to generate more excitement than the last one. Number 11 was described as "A Prize of a Dinner—Join Rice University's Nobel Laureates Dr. Robert Curl and Dr. Richard Smalley for dinner for 12 at the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. William James Miller." And what a prize it was!

Under the leadership of auctioneer Bucky Allshouse the bidding brought laughter and revealed the competitive and generous spirit of the guests. Just when everyone thought the dinner had sold to Mr. and Mrs. Ber Pieper and Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Cloyd, Mr. Allshouse saw the



Bill and Mary Catherine Miller

waving hands of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Sanders who volunteered to contribute \$1000 for the privilege of attending the dinner. Mr. Allshouse pronounced the dinner SOLD to the three couples for a record-setting \$5,200.

On October 28, Mr. and Mrs. Miller hosted the long-awaited dinner in their lovely Tanglewood home, and Mrs. Miller later described it as "the perfect evening." The Friends of Fondren would like to

thank the Millers for hosting the dinner and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Curl and Dr. Richard Smalley for being the very special guests. The Friends also deeply appreciate the generosity of the winning bidders who enriched the Friends Endowment Fund. ≡



Ber Pieper and Larry Sanders



(l-r) Jonel Curl, Marshall Cloyd, Dr. Richard Smalley, and Fran Sanders



Robin Cloyd and Lynne Precourt



Dr. Robert Curl and Col. Charles Precourt

New Home for the Melanchthon Institute

The Rev. Robert G. Moore, Ph.D.
Pastor and Director of The Melanchthon Institute



It is quite understandable that Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church chose the name Melanchthon for a then new continuing education center. In spite of the fact that few people know how to pronounce it, there is no better name for an educational organization. The Melanchthon Institute honors one of the

world's great humanist scholars, Philipp Melanchthon (ma LANK thun). Melanchthon was a contemporary of Erasmus of Rotterdam, a great-nephew of the hebraicist Johannes Reuchlin, a co-worker in the German Reformation with Martin Luther, and an honored subject of the painter Albrecht Dürer. Queen Elizabeth I (1533–1603) practically memorized his systematic treatment of the evangelical (protestant) faith so that she could converse about theology. Melanchthon helped found the universities of Jena, Königsberg, and Marburg. He was also involved in reforming many

universities, including those of Greifswald, Wittenberg, Cologne, Tübingen, Leipzig, Heidelberg, Rostock, and Frankfort-on-the-Oder. As reformer of the educational system of Renaissance Germany, Melanchthon built his reputation as an educational colossus.

The mission of The Melanchthon Institute is to help people in the community strengthen their understanding of the great theological traditions of the Reformation. This goal is all the more significant in the context of an ecumenical world where many are searching to understand individual traditions and learning how these traditions relate to one another. In this regard Melanchthon's name is most appropriate. No one individual did more to bring together the various religious factions of the sixteenth century.

The Melanchthon Institute in Houston was founded in 1994 when the congregation called the Rev. Dr. Robert G. Moore to serve as the Executive Director of the Institute. Dr. Moore had completed his graduate work in 1992 at Rice University in the Department of Religious Studies under Professor Werner Kelber. With no more than a computer and the indefatigable will of a congregation Dr. Moore joined his effort with that of the Senior Pastor of Christ the King Church, the Reverend Edwin D.



Peterman. For twenty-five years Peterman has worked to strengthen and expand religious education at Christ the King and in the community. Professor John Boles, William Pettus Hobby Professor of History, accepted a position on the Institute's Board of Directors.

In the next three years The Melanchthon Institute offered adult education courses and seminars in theology, church history, the Old Testament, the New Testament, in pedagogy, and in Greek. Support grew to the extent that it was necessary to establish a new and larger facility for the Institute. That time came in 1997, coinciding with the 500th Anniversary Year of the birth of Philipp Melanchthon. Celebrations were planned in Germany under the sponsorship of Dr. Roman Herzog, President of Germany, and The Melanchthon Institute began planning for a symposium in honor of Melanchthon.

Christ the King Lutheran Church wanted to present the community with a new building for the Institute to accommodate the growing need for office, library, and classroom space. More significant was the need for an identifiable location for the Institute. For these reasons the Melanchthon House was established, and on the weekend of the Symposium, The Melanchthon Institute moved into its new quarters at 2352 Rice Boulevard. This lovely two story building built in 1941 originally served the neighborhood as a duplex.

On the weekend of September 26-29 Rice University's Center for Cultural Studies, the

Department of History, and the Department of Religious Studies joined the Melanchthon Institute, the University of St. Thomas, The Goethe-Institut Houston, and the University of Houston-Clear Lake to sponsor the weekend's events. Scholars from Germany, Switzerland, and the United States gathered to study and extol the virtues and accomplishments of the great Melanchthon.

A library is necessary for any educational center, but its development is costly. Yet another impetus came from the direction of Rice University when former professor and Church Historian Clyde L. Manschreck donated his library to the Institute. Prof. Manschreck was during his career America's

*A library is necessary for any
educational center, but its
development is costly.*

leading scholar on Melanchthon. He had held the Chavanne Chair of Religious Studies at Rice before his retirement. Dr. Manschreck died in June 1994. His books are now housed in a special section of the Melanchthon House and will inspire further acquisitions in the future.

The Institute has a very specific educational mission and cannot flourish outside the realm of a major regional library. The Fondren Library is therefore a valuable part of the future of The Melanchthon Institute. ≡

Great Libraries in England

The Fondren Tour

The Friends of Fondren Library has scheduled its first foreign tour, "Great Libraries in England — The Fondren Tour," April 22-30, 1998. The tour will visit Oxford, Cambridge, and London with stops at the Bodleian Library, the Wren Library, and the new British Library, to name only a few highlights.

Our tour guide has arranged first class accommodations and activities. Tour participants will make their own travel arrangements to and from London. The cost is \$3,250 per person, and a deposit is due immediately.

For a detailed itinerary please contact the Friends office at 713-285-5157. ≡



Bodleian Library at Oxford



June 1 – September 30, 1997

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*The Friends of Fondren Library is most
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Recent Alumni (1-5 years since graduation from Rice)	\$10
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Sponsor	\$100
Patron	\$250
Benefactor	\$500
Library Fellow	\$1,000

Members of the Friends receive *The Flyleaf* and invitations to special programs and events sponsored by the Friends. Members who are not already faculty or staff of the university receive library privileges. A maximum of four books may be checked out for a period of 28 days, and a photo ID is required. Members must be at least 18. Checks for membership contributions should be made out to the Friends of Fondren Library and mailed to Rice University, Friends of Fondren Library MS 44 - F, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77005-1892, along with your preferred name and address listing and home and business phone numbers. Under Internal Revenue Service Guidelines the estimated value of the benefits received is not substantial; therefore the full amount of your gift is a deductible contribution.

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Fondren Library Receives \$21 Million Gift from Hobby Foundation

A \$21.4 million gift from the Hobby Foundation to Rice University for its Fondren Library is the first financial contribution toward implementing the university's strategic plan, "Rice: The Next Century."

One of the largest donations ever made to a library anywhere, the Hobby gift was announced by Rice President Malcolm Gillis after the Dec. 11 meeting of the university's Board of Governors.

"This gift from the Hobby Foundation will help Rice to revitalize and re-establish Fondren Library as the academic and cultural heart of the university," Gillis said. "It is especially gratifying that the first major gift toward our goal of creating a library for the next century should come from a distinguished and widely respected Texas family with deep and long-standing ties to Rice."

E. William Barnett, chair of Rice's Board of Governors, said, "The Hobby Foundation has greatly accelerated our plans for enhancing Fondren Library. We are extremely grateful not only for the Hobby's generosity, but also for their personal commitment to Rice, and their involvement in the university community for many years."

William P. Hobby, a director of the Hobby Foundation and former lieutenant governor of Texas, said, "Our family is honored to be a part of Rice's next great leap forward."

The Hobby gift may be used for programmatic or capital purposes. It provides Fondren Library with a rare opportunity to make truly remarkable progress in creating the library of the 21st century, according to Charles J. Henry, vice provost and university librarian.

"The Hobby gift is an extraordinary act of generosity that will make a profound and lasting enhancement to the quality of Fondren Library at Rice, benefiting generations of students and faculty to come," Henry said.

William P. Hobby, graduated from Rice in 1953 and was on the Board of Governors from 1989 to 1993. He has been the Radoslav A. Tsanoff Professor of Public Affairs at Rice since 1991. He was lieutenant governor of Texas from 1973 to 1991 and chancellor of the University of Houston from 1995 to 1997.

Diana Hobby received her Ph.D. from Rice in English and has been involved in library planning and in the recruitment of Henry to his current post. She was book editor of *The Houston Post* and associate editor of *Studies in English Literature*, a quarterly periodical published by Rice.

The Hobby family has strong Texas roots and historic ties to Rice. William P. Hobby, Sr., was lieutenant governor and then governor of Texas from 1915 to 1921. He was publisher of *The Houston Post* until his death in 1964.

Oveta Culp Hobby, his wife, was a noted pioneer in business and public service. During World War II she was commander of the Women's Army Corps. She was the first secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. She was president and editor of *The Houston Post* from 1955 until 1965, then editor and chairman of the board from 1965 until the paper was sold in 1983.

Oveta Culp Hobby served as a trustee on the Rice Board of Governors from 1967 until 1974, and continued to serve the university as a trustee emeritus and was a generous donor.



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